

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELFAS 00008 071607Z

45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-11

DHA-02 EURE-00 SCCT-01 /083 W

----- 004793

P R 071502Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1144

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 008

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: ULSTER PRESSURES EASE AS BRITAIN SENDS MORE TROOPS

TO SOUTH ARMAGH

REF: (A) BELFAST 5 (B) BELFAST 4

1. EVENTS OF PAST 24 HOURS BROUGHT SOME EASING OF TENSION IN NORTHERN IRELAND FOLLOWING KILLING OF FIVE CATHOLICS JAN 4 AND TEN PROTESTANTS JAN 5. MOST IMPORTANT ACTS WERE THOSE OF PRIME MINISTER CALLING EMERGENCY MEETING JAN 6 ON NORTHERN IRELAND SITUATION AND SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SIX HUNDRED ADDITIONAL TROOPS WERE BEING DESPATCHED FROM MAINLAND AND FROM ARMY OF RHINE FOR DUTY COUNTY ARMAGH. SECSTATE REES ALSO HELD TWO IMPORTANT MEETINGS AT STORMONT BEFORE FLYING TO LONDON CONFERENCE. HE MET FIRST WITH PROTESTANT PARAMILITARY LEADERS IN ULSTER LOYALIST CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (ULCCC) AND THEN SEPARATELY WITH LEADERS POLITICAL GROUPS. FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH ULCCC, WHICH PARAMILITARIES HAD REQUESTED SOME TIME AGO, NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE STATED SECSTATE REES HAD APPEALED FOR COMMITTEE USE ITS INFLUENCE PREVENT FURTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE. ULCCC SPOKESMAN GLENN BARR STATED AFTER MEETING PARAMILITANTS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BELFAS 00008 071607Z

HAD TOLD SECSTATE OF PRESSURES FROM RANK-AND-FILE FOR A

MILITARY OFFENSIVE AGAINST PROVISIONAL IRA. EIGHTY MINUTE STORMONT MEETING WITH POLITICIANS FAILED PRODUCE ANY INDICATION OF NEW POLITICAL INITIATIVE OR CHANGE IN ATTITUDES. ONLY DISCERNIBLE AGREEMENT AMONG POLITICIANS WAS BRITISH GOVERNMENT MUST DO MORE TO STAMP OUT TERRORISM IN COUNTY ARMAGH. SECSTATE REES ATTACKED MOST SHARPLY BY REVEREND IAN PAISLEY FOR "ENCOURAGING" PROVISIONAL IRA THROUGH CEASEFIRE AND "NEGOTIATIONS" IN PAST BUT ALL LEADERS CALLED FOR MORE EFFORT ON PART BRITISH. GERRY FITT LEADER OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP) REJECTED SUGGESTION MADE IN MEETING THAT SDLP ATTITUDE TOWARD POLICE CONTRIBUTED TO SECTARIAN MURDERS, CALLED FOR THOSE WHO KNEW IDENTITY OF TERRORISTS TO INFORM POLICE AND DENIED THAT MILITARY SOLUTION WAS POSSIBLE IN ABSENCE POLITICAL SOLUTION.

2. JAN 6 SEAMUS LOUGHRAN, NORTHERN ORGANIZER PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN "DOUBTED" PROVISIONAL IRA RESPONSIBLE FOR JAN 5 MASSACRE WHICH CLAIMED BY "SOUTH ARMAGH REPUBLICAN ACTION FORCE". NEWSPAPERS JAN 7 REPORT RUAIRI O' BRADAIGH, PRESIDENT OF PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN HAS ASKED "FEAKLE CLERGY" TO TAKE INITIATIVES TO HALT ESCALATION OF SECTARIAN VIOLENCE IN IRELAND. REVEREND WILLIAM ARLOW CONFIRMED JAN 7 HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH O' BRADAIGH AND THAT FEAKLE CLERGYMEN WOULD MEET IN BELFAST TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL. THERE LITTLE DOUBT IN NORTHERN IRELAND THAT BUS AMBUSH KILLERS WERE PROVISIONAL IRA. REVEREND PAISLEY CHARGED AFTER STORMONT MEETING THAT WHITECROSS KILLERS JAN 5 PENETRATED FIFTEEN MILES INTO NORTHERN IRELAND FROM DUNDALK WITHOUT BEING CHECKED. HE DID NOT DISCLOSE SOURCE THIS INFORMATION. RUC SPOKESMAN JAN 7 SAID FORD VAN SUSPECTED OF BEING USED TO TRANSPORT KILLERS IN AMBUSH HAD BEEN HI-JACKED IN DUNDALK AFTERNOON JAN 5 AND FOUND ABANDONED IN DUNDALK MORNING JAN 6. CONGEN NOTES THIS SUGGESTS TARGET OUTSIDE NORTHERN IRELAND FOR ANY GROUP WISHING TO RETALIATE FOR BUS AMBUSH. ONE HOPEFUL DEVELOPMENT AFTER 15 SECTARIAN KILLINGS WAS MASS PROTEST RALLY OF TRADE UNIONISTS NEWRY JANUARY 6. COURAGEOUS UNION LEADERS CALLED FOR TERRORISTS TO "GET OFF OUR BACKS" AND CROWD DEMONSTRATED COMPLETE SUPPORT THIS SENTIMENT. ONE DISCOURAGING NOTE IS THAT 150 POUND BOMB FOUND IN ABANDONED VEHICLE IN SCHOOL YARD BELFAST CATHOLIC AREA ANDERSONSTOWN NIGHT JAN 6.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BELFAS 00008 071607Z

3. HERALD TRIBUNE IN ARTICLE JAN 6 STATED ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALLER CLAIMING TO REPRESENT ULSTER DEFENCE ASSOCIATION (UDA) HAD TOLD A NEWSPAPER THAT UDA RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING FIVE CATHOLICS (REFTEL B) AND FOR SIX BOMB EXPLOSIONS SINCE CHRISTMAS. CONGEN KNOWS OF NO SUCH CALL OR CLAIM. UDA SPOKESMAN GLENN BARR TOLD REPORTING OFFICER IT "OUTRIGHT LIE".

SPICER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, ARMED FORCES, POLICE FORCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BELFAS00008  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760005-0359  
**From:** BELFAST  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760181/aaaactvj.tel  
**Line Count:** 117  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 BELFAST 5  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** castelsl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by castelsl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ULSTER PRESSURES EASE AS BRITAIN SENDS MORE TROOPS TO SOUTH ARMAGH  
**TAGS:** PINT, UK, NI, ULCCC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006